

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

[P E R F E C T E D]

SENATE BILL NO. 448

92ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR BARTLE.

Read 1st time February 6, 2003, and 1,000 copies ordered printed.

Read 2nd time February 13, 2003, and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence.

Reported from the Committee March 4, 2003, with recommendation that the bill do pass and be placed on the Consent Calendar.

Taken up March 18, 2003. Read 3rd time and placed upon its final passage; bill passed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

1463S.01P

AN ACT

To repeal section 476.055, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the statewide court automation fund, with penalty provisions and an expiration date.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 476.055, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 476.055, to read as follows:

476.055. 1. There is hereby established in the state treasury the "Statewide Court Automation Fund". All moneys collected pursuant to section [476.053] **488.027, RSMo**, as well as gifts, contributions, devises, bequests, and grants received relating to automation of judicial record keeping, and moneys received by the judicial system for the dissemination of information and sales of publications developed relating to automation of judicial record keeping, shall be credited to the fund. Moneys credited to this fund may only be used for the purposes set forth in this section and as appropriated by the general assembly. Any unexpended balance remaining in the statewide court automation fund at the end of each biennium shall not be subject to the provisions of section 33.080, RSMo, requiring the transfer of such unexpended balance to general revenue; except that, any unexpended balance remaining in the fund on September 1, [2004] **2009**, shall be transferred to general revenue.

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

2. The statewide court automation fund shall be administered by a court automation committee consisting of the following: the chief justice of the supreme court, a judge from the court of appeals, four circuit judges, four associate circuit judges, four employees of the circuit court, the commissioner of administration, two members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house, two members of the senate appointed by the president pro tem of the senate and two members of the Missouri Bar. The judge members and employee members shall be appointed by the chief justice. The commissioner of administration shall serve ex officio. The members of the Missouri Bar shall be appointed by the board of governors of the Missouri Bar.

Any member of the committee may designate another person to serve on the committee in place of the committee member.

3. The committee shall develop and implement a plan for a statewide court automation system. The committee shall have the authority to hire consultants, review systems in other jurisdictions and purchase goods and services to administer the provisions of this section. The committee may implement one or more pilot projects in the state for the purposes of determining the feasibility of developing and implementing such plan. The members of the committee shall be reimbursed from the court automation fund for their actual expenses in performing their official duties on the committee.

4. Any purchase of computer software or computer hardware that exceeds five thousand dollars shall be made pursuant to the requirements of the office of administration for lowest and best bid. Such bids shall be subject to acceptance by the office of administration. The court automation committee shall determine the specifications for such bids.

5. The court automation committee shall not require any circuit court to change any operating system in such court, unless the committee provides all necessary personnel, funds and equipment necessary to effectuate the required changes. No judicial circuit or county may be reimbursed for any costs incurred pursuant to this subsection unless such judicial circuit or county has the approval of the court automation committee prior to incurring the specific cost.

6. Any court automation system, including any pilot project, shall be implemented, operated and maintained in accordance with strict standards for the security and privacy of confidential judicial records. Any person who knowingly releases information from a confidential judicial record is guilty of a class B misdemeanor. Any person who, knowing that a judicial record is confidential, uses information from such confidential record for financial gain is guilty of a class D felony.

7. On the first day of February, May, August and November of each year, the court automation committee shall file a report on the progress of the statewide automation system with the joint legislative committee on court automation. Such committee shall consist of the following:

- (1) The chair of the house budget committee;

(2) The chair of the senate appropriations committee;
(3) The chair of the house judiciary committee;
(4) The chair of the senate judiciary committee;
(5) One member of the minority party of the house appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; and

(6) One member of the minority party of the senate appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate.

8. The members of the joint legislative committee shall be reimbursed from the court automation fund for their actual expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties as members of the joint legislative committee on court automation.

9. Section [476.053] **488.027, RSMo**, shall expire on September 1, [2004] **2009**. The court automation committee established pursuant to this section may continue to function until completion of its duties prescribed by this section, but shall complete its duties prior to September 1, [2007] **2011**.

10. This section shall expire on September 1, [2007] **2011**.

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